

site. But most of the historic cities of the world their greatness and their permanence not to whims of royal founders, but to geographical strategic position. Rome was not uncrowned Constantine because he could not forget within walls the crimes which had stained his hands blood.

It is also to be remembered that others had also set the example of despoiling of her dignities ancient Queen of the Nations. We have seen he the western half of the Empire great Imperial city had been rising within easy reach of the frontiers far-off Britain London might be the most opulent city, but York was the chief residence of the C of the West when he visited the island. In < Treves had outstripped Lyons in dignity and we and was now the centre of military and administrative power. Even in Italy Milan had grown at the expense of Rome; it was nearer to the frontier therefore, nearer to the armies. Rome lay out of way. Diocletian, again, had favoured Nicomedia Bithynia. In other words, Rome was ceasing to be the one centre of gravity of the ancient world, could not express the same truth in another form, the Roman world was ceasing to be one. Diocletian had tacitly acknowledged this when he founded his system of Augusti and Caesars. With the subdivision of administrative and executive power there naturally ceases to be one supreme metropolis. It \\

be a mistake to suppose that
Constantine, in four
a new Rome, deliberately hastened the
rapid tend
towards separation. The very name
of" New Re